

Minutes of a Town Council meeting held July 21st, 2011 at 7:00 o'clock PM in the Town Council Chambers, Town Hall, 40 Commons, Little Compton, RI. Members present: Charles N. Appleton, Jr., Fred M. Bodington, III; Paul J. Golembeske, Gary S. Mataronas and Robert L. Mushen. Also in attendance: Tom Dunn, Business Manager.

Salute to the Flag.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file the July 7, 2011 Town Council meeting minutes.

Announcements:

1) The Fire Department has had a very active week:

- 1. An emergency with a fire at a major commercial entity within town where the early intervention of the Fire Department assisted in preventing a major loss of property.**
- 2. An infant was saved due to the quick response and assistance of the local Fire Fighters.**

Councilor Mushen noted that the Department personnel have done an excellent job over the last several days.

2) The Town's Cooling Center has been designated as the Public Safety Complex. The Complex is open 24 hours a day to meet the needs of the residents during the extreme heat.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file the Building Official Department Head Report for June 2011.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file the Fire Department Head Report for June 2011.

Councilor Mushen has coordinated a meeting with Robert Marra and Sandra Farr for Tuesday, July 26 at 1 PM to discuss the review of trash on town property. He will have a report for the August 4, 2011 meeting.

Raymond Holland, Jr., Esq. representing Earl and Susan Samson delivered a draft statement concerning the operation of Sakonnet Vineyards. Councilor Mushen expressed a desire to render this statement without declaring whether or not it meets Zoning. He believes the declaration of zoning compliance should be rendered by the Zoning Official, William Moore. A proposal was made to alter the statement slightly to clarify that it is an opinion of the Council and not a declaration of compliance. After a brief discussion the following was voted:

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second from Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To authorize the Town Council President to sign a statement of the Town Council worded as follows:

SAKONNET VINEYARDS LP

556 West Main Road

Little Compton, Rhode Island

CONFIRMATION OF HISTORICAL WINERY USES

Sakonnet Vineyards was established at its present location in 1975 under the Rhode Island Farmer-Winery Act. James and Loli Mitchell operated the property as a winery from the beginning in 1975 to 1987 when Earl and Susan Samson purchased the property. The Samsons have continued the winery operation to the present day. Sakonnet Vineyards consists of multiple parcels of land totaling approximately 102 acres, and supports the operation of a full scale winery as is allowed under the Little Compton Zoning Ordinance, including the cultivation, growing and harvesting of the vineyard, and the production, storage, marketing, promotion and sale of wines and related products. For more than three and a half decades Sakonnet Vineyards, operating under various licenses issued by the Town, has hosted numerous and varied promotional events at the vineyards, such as corporate and social functions, weddings, concerts, food and wine events, a winery restaurant and guest house, equestrian events,

arts and crafts, art and artwork exhibits, farmers markets and other related winery and agricultural activities, all of which tend to preserve and/ or promote the successful operation of a winery, along with the operation of growing, harvesting, processing, making, producing and selling of wine and wine products. The development rights to the vineyard parcels have been transferred to the State of Rhode Island Agricultural Land Preservation Commission and the Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust.

Accordingly, the Town Council of the Town of Little Compton, has declared that it is familiar with Sakonnet Vineyards LP, the operation of a full scale winery as licensed for the various activities and events conducted on the vineyard premises over the years, as set forth above, and acknowledged that such uses and activities are an integral and essential part of the successful operation of Sakonnet Vineyards LP, that such activities constitute an important part of the operation of a winery, and are all included within the meaning and concept of a winery. It is the opinion of the Town Council that such uses and activities are compatible with a winery operation in Little Compton, as well as with the agricultural uses of the property and is in harmony with surrounding land uses. The Town Council believes that the described uses and activities are in keeping with both the spirit and intent of the Little Compton Zoning Ordinance.

The Town Council of the Town of Little Compton supports and endorses the continuing operation of Sakonnet Vineyards LP and recognizes Sakonnet Vineyards as an important business and good neighbor in our community.

The signature of the Town Council President below, as authorized by the Council, attests to the statements of support made above.

Earl Samson asked to let the record show that they were very thankful for the quick response and actions of the Fire Department in responding Sunday morning to a fire alarm at the Vineyard. He wished to commend the department for their fine work.

The Council has been advised that the Board of Regents declared that they will not consider any building projects for this round of State Aid. Councilor Mushen stated that now this community should rise up and determine how we will handle the issues at the school, specifically the need for an egress in the cafeteria.

Vacancies on Boards and Commissions will remain posted due to the lack of Letters of interest received for the following:

Harbor Commission – SPMA representative unexpired term

CRMC Alt. representative – unexpired term

Conservation Commission – unexpired term

LC Housing Trust – unexpired term

Due to a member of the LC Free Public Library moving out of town a new vacancy has been created. This position will be added to the list of vacancies posted for letters of interest to be received.

An invitation has been received from the Middletown Town Council to attend a gathering of Newport County Councils to discuss regionalization options. Councilors Bodington and Mushen have agreed to attend the session tentatively set for August 24, 2011.

Motion made by Councilor Appleton, receiving a second from Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To authorize Councilor Golembeske to meet with Bill Moore in his capacity of Safety Officer for the Little Compton Little League to review the needs of the baseball field at Veteran's Field and to be further authorized to commit up to \$1,900 in town funds for the restoration work.

At 7:25 PM the Town Council sitting as the Board of License Commissioners acknowledged receipt of the cancellation of an event previously licensed with a one day Class F-1 Beverage License to the LC Game Club for July 24, 2011.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Appleton, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To grant permission to the LC American Legion Post 37 to use Veteran's Field on Saturday, July 23, for their annual yard sale.

Motion made by Councilor Mushen, receiving a second from Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington,

Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To direct the Business Manager to work with Councilor Golembeske to develop a proposal for the Town to comply with an Emergency Animal Sheltering policy.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To announce a claims process for eligible parties to apply for compensation for having been denied funding through the US Dept. of Agriculture due to being Hispanic or a woman farmer. This announcement has been posted on the Town Hall Public Bulletin Board.

James Wordell, as resident of Little Compton has applied on behalf of the Little Compton Senior Tennis League for Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 6:30 AM to 9:30 AM, be reserved from March through December for the Leagues use. The League has reserved the courts verbally in the past through the school and have only recently realized the Town Council takes care of non-school use of the courts.

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second from Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To allow the Little Compton Senior Tennis League to reserve the tennis courts from 6:30 am to 9:30 am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from March through December annually.

Mr. Mushen noted that the Town has been the benefactor of maintenance done by this league to repair cracks, seating and nets for both summer and winter use. The League members are to be commended for the efforts done to keep the courts in good repair. In future budgetary work sessions he suggest the Council consider raising the funding in the Civic Recreation stroke to include funds for tennis court and other recreational field maintenance work.

Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second from Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file the consent calendar as follows:

- 1. Billing Summary submitted by Richard S. Humphrey for services rendered as Town Solicitor.**
- 2. Memorandum from Fire Chief regarding planned absence.**

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second from Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): That the bills be allowed and ordered paid as follows: \$57,004.11

Everlasting Designs - computer July, Aug, Sept. service \$4,800.00
Joseph Rego - Transfer Station trimming \$310.00
Goulart Petroleum Inc. - Harbor Management Fund \$38.37

Allied Waste - Transfer Station \$7,500.00

Sakonnet Plumbing & Heating Inc. - Maintenance Garage \$119.83

Sakonnet Plumbing & Heating Inc. - Wastewater Tr. Facility \$189.93

Wilbur's General Store - Maintenance \$23.96

Wilbur's General Store - Town Hall & 32 Commons \$17.43

Petro - gasoline \$2,807.10

Nationalgrid - Town Dock \$52.88

Nationalgrid - Peckham Lot \$41.39

Nationalgrid - Street Lights \$17.46

Nationalgrid - Meeting Hall 32 Commons \$21.39

Nationalgrid - IOOF \$54.14

Nationalgrid - Town Hall \$477.97

Nationalgrid - Adamsville Street Lights \$69.73

Nationalgrid - Public Safety @ Transfer Station \$485.35

Ralph Tompkins - Tree Committee \$505.75

Interstate Refrigerant Recovery - Transfer Station \$189.00

Paychex of New York LLC - Treasurer \$407.57

Home Depot - maintenance \$23.79

Tom's Lawn & Garden - Maintenance \$44.35

Postmaster - Treasurer \$264.00

Messenger Security Systems Inc. - Town hall \$105.00

Eastbay Newspapers - Zoning Board \$48.40

Eastbay Newspapers - Assessors \$72.60

Eastbay Newspapers - Probate \$60.00

KTR Maintenance & Supply LLC - Public Safety Complex \$960.00

Pyro Engineering Inc. - Fireworks fund \$2,675.00

Poland Springs - Maintenance Dept. \$7.69

Poland Springs - Town Hall \$49.66

A T & T - Transfer Station (final bill) \$1.85

Walco - Town Dock - Harbor Management Fund \$147.26

Franlart Nurseries Inc. - Tree Warden \$2,285.00

Goldsteins Lawn & Farm Inc. - Maintenance \$10.89

Kevin's Auto Parts Inc. - Maintenance \$42.62

Comstar - Fire Dept. \$397.68

Firematic Supply Co Inc. - Fire Dept. \$108.41

Shipman's Fire Equipment Co., Inc. - Fire Dept. \$380.00

Firematic Supply Co Inc. - Fire Dept. \$353.40

Shipman's Fire Equipment Co., Inc. - Fire Dept. \$182.50

Shipman's Fire Equipment Co., Inc. - Fire Dept. \$182.50

Verizon Wireless - Fire Dept. \$221.60

Louis A Cerbo, Ed.D. - Fire Dept. \$295.00

Louis A Cerbo, Ed.D. - Fire Dept. \$295.00

Ed Lyons Fire Equip. - Fire Dept. \$576.00

Industrial Communications & Electronics - Fire Dept. \$1,119.00

Griggs & Browne - Fire Dept. \$50.00

Cox Communications - Fire Dept. \$285.16

Wilbur's General Store - Fire Dept. \$40.41

Belmont Springs - Fire Dept. \$35.58 \$4,522.24

RI Interlocal Risk Management Trust - Insurance \$11,882.00

ACS - Town Clerk \$1,299.00

PJ Keating Co. - Highway \$797.15

WB Mason - Clerk - Treasurer \$251.40

Pitney Bowes - Drug Forfeiture \$79.00

Verizon Wireless - Drug Forfeiture \$334.19

Rob's Auto Care - Drug Forfeiture \$600.84

Occupational Health Center - Drug Forfeiture \$100.00

NESPIN - Drug Forfeiture \$50.00

Rhode Island Attorney General - Drug Forfeiture \$30.00

University of Rhode Island - Drug Forfeiture \$375.00

Adamson Industries Corp - Drug Forfeiture \$27.95

Vic's Car Wash - Drug Forfeiture \$9.50

Roger Williams University - Drug Forfeiture \$495.00

IMC - Drug Forfeiture \$9,100.00 \$11,201.48

Wilbur's General Store - Police Dept. \$7.48

Cox Communication/Telephone - Police Dept. \$321.10

Cox Communication/Internet - Police Dept. \$171.00

K.T.R. Maintenance - Police Dept. \$192.25

East Bay Printing - Police Dept. \$80.00

ASG Global Inc - Police Dept. \$119.27

Sakonnet Veterinary Hospital - Police Dept. \$390.00 \$1,281.10

Paychex of New York LLC - Treasurer \$400.02

Cox Communications - meeting hall 32 Commons \$27.72

Wilkie Excavating - Transfer Station \$90.00

Verizon Wireless - Building Official \$39.40

Verizon Wireless - Maintenance Dept. \$126.61

Verizon Wireless - Transfer Station \$92.63

Saunders Sales & Service LLC - Maintenance Dept. \$66.00

Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second from Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To adjourn at 7:37 PM.

Carol A Wordell, Town Clerk